When Tony Dorsey became the Director of the School in 1999, one of his conditions was that everyone - faculty, staff and students - contribute to the management of SCARP. To do this a School Management Committee (SMC) was established that first met in September 1999 and has continued to meet every second Thursday during the regular term times ever since.

The SMC is chaired by the Director and consists of all faculty members, the Administrator of the School and the Administrator of the Centre for Human Settlements (CHS), a representative of the doctoral students and the Director of the SCARP Planning Students Association (PSA). Adjunct Faculty are welcome to attend any meeting as their schedules permit.

The SMC deals with all management issues except those that are the sole responsibility of continuing faculty as established under University rules and procedures (e.g. decisions on promotion and tenure of continuing faculty).

The SMC makes its decisions by consensus and they are advisory to the Director. In the event that the Director decides to act in a different way, she or he provides the reasons to the members of the SMC.

An agenda and associated materials, including minutes from the previous meeting, are distributed in advance.

The SMC operates through committees and task forces that are established as needed by the Director.